IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1-49. (Canceled)

50. (Currently amended) A method for providing information from hyperlinked pages over a computer network, comprising:

mapping a plurality of target pages, each of the target pages having a network address and comprising at least one hyperlink to a related page;

identifying a set of linked related pages for each of the plurality of target pages;

automatically selecting selected objects from the target pages and each set of linked related pages, the selected objects comprising: a block of text from at least one of the target pages or the linked related pages having text and an image file from at least one of the target pages or the linked related pages displaying an image;

defining properties of the selected objects comprising respective locations of the selected objects on the target pages;

generating a reduced-size image from the selected image file; and

generating map information regarding the target pages and each set of linked related pages, the map information comprising the block of text, the reduced-size image, hyperlinks referencing the target pages and each operative for requesting a map of respective ones of the target pages, and a descriptor of selected pages from each set, for each of the plurality of target pages, configured such that, when the map information is displayed at a remote client as a map of a target page, ~~a user can preview informational content of the target page and can select ones of the hyperlinks from the map of the target page to receive the map information for corresponding ones of the related pages~~ the map of the target page contains all of the map information arranged according to the properties of the selected objects in a user-navigable display

that enables user exploration of the selected objects including requesting, using the hyperlinks, additional web maps of target pages.

51. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 50, wherein the generating map information step further comprises:

defining an identifier for each object in ~~of~~ the selected objects that is distinct from the each object;

defining at least one property for each object in said selected objects, describing said object that is distinct from the each object and its identifier; and

including the identifier and the property for each object in the selected objects in the map information.

52. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 50, further comprising creating a map page comprising a graphical representation of selected map information for at least one of the set of linked related pages.

53. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 52, wherein the creating step further comprises representing the selected map information as a hierarchy of linked pages.

54. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 52, further comprising serving the map page in response to selection of ~~an associated identifier~~ one of the hyperlinks referencing the target pages.

55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 50, further comprising storing the map information in a database for later use in the compiling step.

57. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 56, further comprising recalling the map information from the database in response to a request for the map information, wherein the request is generated by user selection of an associated one of the hyperlinks on a map of a target page.

58. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 57, further comprising receiving the request by detecting a mouse-over of the associated one of the hyperlinks.

59. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 56, further comprising deleting the map information from the database after a predetermined period of inactivity.

60. (Currently amended) A computer-Implemented system for mapping information on a wide area network, the system comprising a host connected to said network and operably associated with a memory holding executable instructions for:

mapping a plurality of target pages, each of the target pages having a network address and comprising at least one hyperlink to a related page;

identifying a set of linked related pages for each of the plurality of target pages;

automatically selecting selected objects from the target pages and each set of linked related pages, the selected objects comprising a block of text from at least one of the target pages or the linked related pages having text and an image file from at least one of the target pages or the linked related pages displaying an image;

defining properties of the selected objects comprising respective locations of the selected objects on the target pages;

generating a reduced-size image from the selected image file; and

generating map information regarding the target pages and each set of linked related pages, the map information comprising the block of text, the reduced-size image, hyperlinks referencing the target pages and each operative for requesting a map of respective ones of the target pages, and a descriptor of selected pages from each set, for each of the plurality of target pages, configured such that, when the map information is displayed at a remote client as a map of a target page, ~~a user can preview informational content of the target page and can select ones of the hyperlinks from the map of the target page to receive the map information for corresponding ones of the related pages~~ the map of the target page includes all of the map information arranged according to the properties of the selected objects in a user-navigable display that enables user exploration of the selected objects via the hyperlinks to request additional web maps of target pages.

61. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the instructions further comprise creating a map page comprising a graphical representation of selected map information for at least one of the set of linked related pages.

62. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 61, wherein the creating step of the instructions further comprises representing the selected map information as a hierarchy of linked pages.

63. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 61, wherein the instructions further comprise serving the map page in response to selection of an associated identifier.

64. (Canceled)

65. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the instructions further comprise storing the map information in a database for later use in

the compiling step.

66. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 65, wherein the instructions further comprise recalling the map information from the database in response to a request for the map information, wherein the request is generated by user selection of an associated one of the hyperlinks on a map of a target page.

67. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 66, wherein the instructions further comprise receiving the request by detecting a mouse-over of the associated one of the hyperlinks.

68. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the instructions further comprise cooperating with an application module operating on a client computer, the application module configured for generating a map page from the map information provided by the host.

69. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 68, wherein the application module is a distributable application for delivery to the client computer.

70-71. (Canceled)

72. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 50, further comprising automatically selecting the plurality of target pages for generating map information using predetermined criteria applied to query results returned by an Internet search engine.

73. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the instructions further comprise automatically selecting the plurality of target pages for generating map information using predetermined criteria applied to query results returned by an Internet search engine.

74. (New) A method for mapping a Web page, comprising:

receiving a set of target pages from a first server;

parsing the set of target pages at a second server to generate page properties comprising a page address, page title, page file size, and metatags, for each page in the set of target pages;

storing the page properties in a database;

parsing the set of target pages at the second server to identify objects that exist on the target pages;

defining object properties for the objects that exist on the target pages, wherein object properties for text object types comprise an object location on page, and at least one textual phrase, object properties for graphical object types comprise an object location on page and thumbnail image data for each graphical object and object properties for hyperlink object types comprise an object location on page and an object classification for what each hyperlink object links to, for each hyperlink object; and

storing the object properties in the database for generating map pages wherein the object properties are arranged according to their respective properties of object location on page.

75. (New) The method of claim 74, further comprising classifying, at the second server, the objects that exist on the target pages into different object types.

76. (New) The method of claim 74, further comprising generating, at the second server, object identification data for each unique one of the objects that exist on the target pages, the object identification data for each object being distinct from every object property for the each object and identifying the each object in the database.

77. (New) The method of claim 74, further comprising generating map information at the second server in response to requests from remote clients, for causing display of corresponding map pages at the remote clients wherein the object properties are arranged according to their respective properties of object location on page.

78. (New) The method of claim 74, further comprising defining object properties for hyperlink objects that exist on the target pages, further comprising respective map links for requesting a web map of what each hyperlink object links to.

79. (New) The method of claim 78, further comprising generating map information at the second server in response to requests from remote clients, for causing display of corresponding map pages at the remote clients wherein the object properties are arranged according to their respective properties of object location on page and include the respective map links operative to request a web map of what each respective hyperlink object links to.

80. (New) A computer-readable media encoded with instructions for:

receiving a set of web pages;

analyzing the set of web pages to generate page properties comprising a page address, page title, page file size, and metatags, for each page in the set of target pages, and to identify objects that exist on the target pages;

defining object properties for the objects that exist on the target pages, wherein object properties for text object types comprise an object location on page, and at least one textual phrase, object properties for graphical object types comprise an object location on page and thumbnail image data for each graphical object and object properties for hyperlink object types comprise an object location on page and an object classification for what each hyperlink object links to, for each hyperlink object; and

storing the page properties and the object properties in the database for generating map pages wherein the object properties are arranged according to their respective properties of object location on page.

81. (New) The computer-readable media of claim 80, further encoded with instructions for classifying the objects that exist on the target pages into different object types.

82. (New) The computer-readable media of claim 80, further encoded with instructions for generating object identification data for each unique one of the objects that exist on the target pages, the object identification data for each object being distinct from every object property for the each object and identifying the each object in the database.

83. (New) The computer-readable media of claim 80, further encoded with instructions for generating map information in response to requests from remote clients, for causing display of corresponding map pages at the remote clients wherein the object properties are arranged according to their respective properties of object location on page.

84. (New) The computer-readable media of claim 80, further encoded with instructions for defining object properties for hyperlink objects that exist on the target pages, further comprising respective map links for requesting a web map of what each hyperlink object links to.

85. (New) The computer-readable media of claim 84, further encoded with instructions for generating map information in response to requests from remote clients, for causing display of corresponding map pages at the remote clients wherein the object properties are arranged according to their respective properties of object location on page and include the respective map links operative to request a web map of what each respective hyperlink object links to.